



# MEMORANDUM

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**DATE:** January 24, 2014

**TO:** Honorable Mayor  
and Council Members

**FROM:** Richard Miranda  
City Manager

**SUBJECT:** High School Wash Drainage Improvement Project

This memorandum is in response to additional questions being raised following media coverage that states that the City of Tucson is postponing the approval of Pima County and the Army Corps of Engineers drainage-work permits to accommodate the Fourth Avenue Street Fair.

The City has not issued permits for the 48-inch potable water line and sewer line relocations, as well as the drainage improvement work because final, approved plans have not been received and applications for excavation and traffic control permits have not yet been submitted to the City. However, it is noted earlier this week, traffic control and excavation permits were issued to the contractor for minor utility relocations which is separate from the 48-inch potable water line and sewer line project.

Again, the City has not yet issued the traffic control and excavation permits for the relocation of Tucson Water's 48-inch potable water line and the Pima County Regional Flood Control District's box culvert because the applications for the permits have not been submitted. Hence, construction plans for both projects have not been finalized and approved. Once final plans for the water line relocations are submitted, Tucson Water will process and approve the plans for submittal to the Pima County Department of Environmental Quality for final approval.

Regarding the issue of the Sun Link Maintenance and Storage Facility (MSF), the building was built at an elevation to remove it from the 100-year flood plain. As part of the construction of the MSF and Downtown Links, the City improved underground storm drain utilities in the area. Any additional on-site storm water flow due to the construction of the MSF is being captured into new or existing drainage infrastructure. Post construction drainage reports indicate that the potential of sheet flow flooding from the MSF has been mitigated.

There is an expectation that City staff will continue to work cooperatively with Pima County staff to ensure the High School Wash Drainage Improvement Project begins in a timely manner and is a successful project. I will continue to monitor this matter closely and provide you with updates if necessary.

RM/MG/yle

C: Executive Leadership Team  
Mayor and Council Aides  
Mayor and Council Executive Assistants